

BAZARS WILL CLOSE TODAY

New Assortment of Christmas Articles Seen in Bee Rotunda.

HAND-MADE GIFTS NUMEROUS

Fancy Work of All Descriptions Fine Candles and Many Good Things to Eat Are Displayed by the Church Women.

Today will be the last day to buy at the "Fair of the Churches," which is being held in the rotunda of the Bee building.

Again the tables are laden with the handicraft of women and it is a splendid opportunity to buy real hand-made gifts. Home-made candies can also be gotten at the bazaar. Mince meat, cakes and breads of all kinds are on the tables of the different churches. Here are all kinds of pretty fancy work, the daintiest boudoir caps, aprons of all kinds, bags of all sizes and descriptions, some made of pretty ribbons and lace and those made of the heavier materials.

The churches which will use the tables at the Fair of the Churches are the North Side Christian, Clifton Hill Presbyterian, Trinity Methodist and the First Christian of Florence.

Methodist Women's Display. The tables at the left of the entrance to the rotunda are covered with articles made by the women from the society of Trinity Methodist church and are in charge of Mrs. E. W. Reveall, who is assisted by Mrs. A. P. Johnson, Mrs. Touchin, Mrs. Bertsch, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Marks, Mrs. Gilliland, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Hobbs, Miss Berger and Miss Brown.

At the left of the fountain the tables are occupied by the women of the Clifton Hill Presbyterian. Mrs. P. M. Judson, who is president of the Ladies' Aid society, is assisted by Mrs. F. Hartley, Mrs. Hlatt, Mrs. Dills, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. T. B. Greenlee, Mrs. Hendee, Mrs. Pontz, Mrs. Kriese, Mrs. Irlwin and Mrs. Kriese.

The women of the First Christian church of Florence have some fine candy made by the Sunday school children. They also have some very pretty fancy work of all kinds. Mrs. R. A. Goulding has charge of the table and is assisted by Mrs. William Tuttle and Mrs. J. A. Holtzman.

The tables around the fountain are laden with pretty articles of the North Christian church women. Mr. Margaret Smalley has charge of this bazaar and is assisted by Mrs. R. F. Grant, Mrs. S. Forey, Mrs. C. L. Micoey, Mrs. John Kearney, Mrs. Frank Seely and Mrs. V. B. Spurrier.

The Fair of the Churches will close Saturday evening at 6 o'clock.

Christmas Rush On at the Postoffice

Thursday afternoon began the first real Christmas rush of the present year at the general postoffice and up to 10 o'clock four scales, and the like number of windows were kept running to accommodate the postoffice employees. The crowd will grow steadily larger, says Postmaster Wharton, and we expect to have all hands on deck Saturday, working at top speed. It is a funny thing, that at Christmas time, people who have lived in Omaha all their lives visit the postoffice probably for the first time during the year, and are completely at sea as to how and where to mail their packages. Here is where I come in play as the willing instructor, and from now on till after the holidays will with a couple of assistants, hunt the corridors merely to give advice to those who are not familiar with the methods.

While we expect to have plenty of work to keep us busy, we want all the trade we can get, so don't forget that all roads lead to the postoffice.

The carriers are anxiously watching the weather reports from day to day and hoping that the snow will hold off until after Christmas that the carrying will not be so burdensome.

"Talk about a white Christmas," said one of the carriers. "That is the thing we never pray for as some people do. Last year we had a great deal of snow just before Christmas and the work of carrying the extra loads of Christmas bundles in the deep snow was killing."

Fruit in California Nearly a Failure

J. B. Langdon of Riverside, Cal., went east through Omaha, and in discussing the California orange crop of this year, said: "It is the poorest in the history of the state. The crop is light and the quality far below the average. Growers who during past years have been producing thousands of boxes, this year will not have more than half a crop. The crop is not a failure, but it is the nearest to it in ten years."

Asked about sweating oranges, Mr. Langdon said that it has become a general custom at the packing houses, adding: "In order to get the prices, which are high, growers are picking their oranges before they are really matured. In color they are green. Taken to the packing houses, they are given an acid bath, which plumps them out and at the same time gives them a bright yellow color, indicating to the consumer that they are fully ripe. There is no poisonous matter in the bath and consequently the treatment does not injure the fruit in any manner. In fact, it has a tendency to preserve the oranges and keep them from spoiling."

WOMAN SUES FOR PROPERTY PROMISED BY HER MOTHER

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DRINKING CUPS AND TOWELS LEAVE STATION

The public towels and drinking cups that since its construction have been among the appointments at the Union station have disappeared. From now on they will not be in evidence. The order banishing the towels and cups is the result of the general manifesto issued by the Interstate Commerce commission, this branch of the government machinery holding to the opinion that they were unsanitary and are vehicles for spreading disease.

City Hall Employee Solves the High Cost of Living



Herman Crowwell, the "steepie-jack" of the city hall, has discovered one solution of the high cost of living, but has no intention of donating the information to the general public gratis. For a long time the steepie-jack has been sleuthing about the municipal castle with an air of mystery. Purely by accident, meeting Herman while he was in a happy mood, one habitue of the hall found the clue. Herman is the city's chief and only steepie-jack. Whenever the city hall is bedecked with holiday-colored lights it is the work of Herman, who was once a sailor on the high seas and has the knack of climbing up a perpendicular wall—a knack few lubberly landmen can acquire. During his excursions up the sides and over the roof of the city hall the steepie-jack discovered a pigeon roost in the dark recesses of the tower. At once an idea assailed him. "Why pay exorbitant prices for meat when luscious squabs, nobody's property, could be had merely for the taking?" Sure enough, why? Herman did not hesitate. He robbed that pigeon roost. And now he is one of the best fed employees of the city government, for every day, or every other day, when the steepie-jack's funds grow low and the larder is about exhausted he makes a mysterious trip to the tower of the city hall and always comes down smiling. Thursday afternoon Herman was returning from a trip to the pigeon roost. It was then he dropped the clue which led at last to the discovery. "Whatcha got under your coat?" inquired a suspicious, but trust-worthy person. "Seh-sh-sh," spoke the steepie-jack softly, looked sharply about and seeing no amateur or professional detectives he opened his coat and there reposed as pretty a squab as the most exacting gourmand would desire to behold.

CHRISTMAS TRADE IS GREAT

Omaha Merchants Note Large Number of State Buyers.

STORES ARE OPEN EVENINGS

Shipping Departments of All the Large Stores Are Taxed to Their Utmost Limit to Handle the Orders.

The present holiday season promises to be the greatest from a standpoint of sales to out-of-town customers ever noted by Omaha retail concerns. It has been estimated that during the last few days from 2,000 to 3,000 country town residents have been in Omaha daily to do their Christmas buying.

Omaha merchants are delighted with the situation. A. D. Brandeis declares his stores have sold more goods to out-of-town customers this year than any previous time. The shipping department is unusually busy, he declares, while most of the country people are carrying their Christmas goods back with them.

J. L. Orkin of Orkin Brothers says he believes their books will show a record business and while not indicating the amount of goods sold to out-of-town buyers other than through the shipping departments, the clerks are aware of an unusual trade from the country folk. William Holman, manager of the Nebraska Clothing store, believes that store will show unprecedented sales to out-of-town people. The hotels and railroads he said, will tell you, I believe that there are 1,500 to 2,000 out-of-town guests coming in every day. This Farmers' Life congress has brought us a great number of country town customers.

A. T. Benson of Benson & Thorne declared, "We have enjoyed an unusually good trade from out-of-town customers this season. We presume this is the case with all the stores, especially those who sell better grades of merchandise. The out-of-town customer comes to Omaha because he can get better grades here than are obtainable in smaller towns."

"Our Christmas trade has been great and we have noted especially the large number of out-of-town buyers," said Thomas Guinan, general manager for Hayden Bros. "They have learned that Omaha stores carry the latest styles in all lines as well as all the latest novelties."

Hotels Filled. The hotels of Omaha are claiming a large patronage from out in the state just at present, which they say is due to the large number of persons who annually come to Omaha to do their Christmas shopping. Many of the hotels say that the rush from out in the state this year is greater than last year.

This is considered a dull season at the hotels as far as commercial men are concerned, for the traveling men say they find every one too busy selling out their stock at Christmas to be occupied with giving traveling men orders for more stock. Of late years, however, the hotel men say, the most of people coming in from the state practically make up for the absence of the traveling men.

Wakeley Memorial Services Postponed

The memorial services which were to have been held this morning for the late Judge E. Wakeley have been indefinitely postponed because of the death of Judge Doane. Joint services for these two venerable jurists will be held at a later date by the members of the Douglas county bar.

NEAT SUM IS RAISED FOR RETIRED JANITOR

Omaha High school students and faculty gave a benefit program Friday for former Assistant Janitor Fitzgerald, who was retired on account of physical disability after many years of service. More than \$200 was raised. The program included

TURKEYS SOMEWHAT SCARCE

Price is Somewhat Less for Christmas Than for Thanksgiving.

BUTTER AND EGGS THE SAME

Cranberries, Another Christmas Necessity, Are Plentiful—Mixed Nuts Come High This Year.

Christmas turkeys will be sold this year between 22 and 25 cents a pound. The birds are rather scarce, but those on the market are of excellent quality. Now is a good time to buy them and other luxuries for the Christmas table, say the grocers.

Mixed nuts will sell this season for 15 cents a pound. Shelled popcorn may be had for 5 cents a pound. Black walnuts are 7 1/2 cents, hickory nuts 5 cents, chestnuts 1 1/2 cents, filberts 1 1/2 cents, Brazil nuts 15 cents, English walnuts 20 cents, pecans 15 cents and almonds 20 cents a pound. Oranges are priced at from 15 cents to 20 cents a dozen. They are said to be of the best quality that have come to the Omaha market for several years. All kinds of eating apples are \$1.50 a bushel. Cooking apples are 20 cents a peck. Figs are 20 cents a pound and California figs in packages are priced at 7 1/2 cents. Halloween dates sell for 8 1/2 cents and Ford dates are 15 cents a pound. Maltina grapes may be had for 15 cents a pound. Bananas at the present time are very scarce. Ripen bananas have not been on the market for three days and some shipments of green importations are now being ripened for Monday's sale.

Cranberries, a Christmas necessity, are plentiful and may be bought for 7 1/2 cents a quart. Sweet potatoes are three pounds for a dime. Parsley is priced at three bunches for a nickel.

Christmas decorations are about the same as usual in price. Holly is 10 cents a pound. The wreaths are 15 cents each and wreathing comes in twenty-yard rolls at 50 cents.

Eggs for Christmas may be bought for 17 1/2 or 15 cents a dozen as other consignments from the country and shipments from the storage houses are expected in soon. Eggs now sell at 20 cents.

As for butter there are no priceless held out. That commodity probably will remain at the price it is now selling. Best grades of creamery butter are priced differently at the various stores, but all range from 37 to 40 cents a pound. Country butter may be bought as low as 25 cents a pound.

Press Association Wants Metal Back

Charging that Barnhart Bros. & Spindler, type foundry, are buying up type metal which is the sole property of the American Press association and is not to be sold under any circumstances, the press association went into district court with a suit to enjoin the foundry from continuing the practice. A temporary restraining order was procured. The case will come up on hearing for permanent injunction early in January.

The American Press association is in the business of furnishing to publishers news and other matter for publication. The matter is furnished in the form of plates manufactured from type metal. These plates are marked with the name of the American Press association and are furnished the publishers with the understanding that they are the property of the association and are to be returned to it after being used. The association melts the type metal and uses it in making new plates.

It is alleged in the petition that the type foundry are purchasing the old plates from the publishers and using the metal as they see fit. Many publishers are willing to sell the plates, as they receive no money from them when they return them to the association.

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Hartman's Splendid Christmas Offerings On Credit Terms That Make Buying Easy

1500 Handsome Dressed Dolls 19c Great Xmas Special

COMPLETE TOY RAILROAD One to Each Customer 35c

Collapsible Doll Go-Carts 98c

Solid Oak Colonial Pedestal 75c Down 50c Monthly

Unequaled Rocker Value \$4.45

Gentlemen's Smoking Stands 98c

Toy White Enameled Chiffonier \$4.25

Ladies' Writing Desk \$1.89

LADIES' PARLOR DESK \$4.98

HARTMAN'S 1414-1416-1418 DOUGLAS ST.

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Rate Cancellation is Causing Losses

The order of the Interstate Commerce commission cancelling the 15 cent rate on grain from Omaha to New Orleans, effective December 23, has caught a number of the grain dealers napping and put them in a position where they stand to lose heavily.

Hundreds of cars of grain were moving toward New Orleans daily and thousands of cars had been sold for delivery during January, with many during February and March. When this grain was sold, it was with the understanding that the rate would not expire until March 31, the commission having so ordered, consequently there was no haste in getting the grain south, dealers having plenty of time in which to fill their contracts.

Then came the new order of the commission and on notice of five days the rate was cancelled and the old rate of 15 cents per 100 pounds re-established. There is now a hustling among dealers and by railroads operating between Omaha and the gulf to get cars, load them and bill them out before December 23, in order to deliver on the old rate, thus saving the 3 cents per 100 pounds.

PRESENT COLD SPELL WILL NOT LAST LONG

The snappy weather of today probably will not continue long. Reports from the railroads indicate that the pocket of cold weather is not widespread, its center being over eastern Nebraska.

Out in Wyoming and the western part of Nebraska Friday morning temperatures ranged around 30 to 40 degrees above zero, with clear and calm.

Bee Want Ad Makes Quick House Sale

The Byron Reed company thinks it has established a record for securing quick results in advertising big things. A small display ad in the last Sunday Bee announced a new house at Twenty-seventh avenue and Davenport street for sale. Today a deed was signed and the title to the property turned over to John M. Lowe, superintendent of the ruling department at the Carpenter Paper company, who takes The Bee at his home. He paid \$4,250 for the house as a Christmas present for his wife. Salesmen at the realty company's office say The Bee holds the record for getting quickly in touch with those who have "money to spend."

BENEFIT MUSICAL TO BE HELD FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

Final plans have been made for the musical which will be given at the University of Omaha for the benefit of athletics. The date has been definitely set for Friday, January 10, and will be given at the university gymnasium. The talent, while it will be mostly from the school, will be among the best in the city. Harry Disbrow, baritone, will give all the vocal selections. He will be accompanied by Jean G. Jones, Miss Beatrice Barnhart, director of oratory at the university, will read. Edwin Reils will render several piano solos. Both Mr. Disbrow and Mr. Reils are members of the freshmen class at the local institution.

The proceeds will be used in purchasing sweaters for the members of the football team.

Last Day Dec. 21 Christmas Fair OF The Churches Bee Building Court

THE OMAHA DAILY, EVENING AND SUNDAY BEE.

The Best Advertising Mediums in Their Territory.